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**Introduced by Senator Escutia**

February 22, 2005

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An act to amend Section 315 of the Education Code, relating to English language education, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 782, as introduced, Escutia. English language tutoring.

Proposition 227, an initiative statute, approved by the voters at the June 2, 1998, statewide primary election, requires the state to encourage family members and others to provide personal English language tutoring to children coming from backgrounds of limited English proficiency. That existing law appropriates a sum of \$50,000,000 per year for these purposes from the General Fund for the fiscal year in which the initiative was enacted and each of the 9 fiscal years following thereafter. The existing statutory initiative allows for amendments to its provisions only by a statute approved by the electorate or by a statute to further the act's purposes passed by a vote of  $\frac{2}{3}$  of each house of the Legislature and signed by the Governor.

This bill would continuously appropriate a sum of \$50,000,000 per year from the General Fund.

This bill would state that the Legislature finds and declares that this act furthers the purposes of Proposition 227.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 315 of the Education Code is amended  
2 to read:

1     315. In furtherance of its constitutional and legal requirement  
2 to offer special language assistance to children coming from  
3 backgrounds of limited English proficiency, the state shall  
4 encourage family members and others to provide personal  
5 English language tutoring to such children, and support these  
6 efforts by raising the general level of English language  
7 knowledge in the community. ~~Commencing with the fiscal year~~  
8 ~~in which this initiative is enacted and for each of the nine fiscal~~  
9 ~~years following thereafter, a~~ A sum of fifty million dollars  
10 (\$50,000,000) per year is hereby appropriated from the General  
11 Fund for the purpose of providing additional funding for free or  
12 subsidized programs of adult English language instruction to  
13 parents or other members of the community who pledge to  
14 provide personal English language tutoring to California school  
15 children with limited English proficiency.

16     SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that the  
17 amendments made to Section 315 of the Education Code by  
18 Section 1 of this act further the purpose of Proposition 227, as  
19 enacted at the June 2, 1998, statewide primary election.